

Homework

We encourage all children to read to you **every day** at home. We cannot stress enough the importance of regular reading at home. It has a huge impact on progress and confidence, providing opportunities for your child to practise the skills they've learned in school. Ten minutes a day makes such a difference! We welcome the positive comments you make in the reading record, or on Tapestry, and appreciate the time you take to listen to your child.

A weekly challenge will be posted on Tapestry each Friday for you to complete together at home over that weekend and through the week.

Expectations in Cowrie Class

Children throughout the school are encouraged at all times to be polite, diligent and hard working. We want the children to do the best they can and feel a sense of pride and achievement in everything they do. We encourage teamwork and a respect for all other members of 'Team St Minver'. We remind the children daily of our school motto, 'Be Brave, Be Kind, Belong'.

Class R Outings

We hope to get out with the children again this half term. We will try to organise a visit to Wadebridge to tie in much of the work we have been completing throughout the year and we will go out in our immediate locality too.

Class rewards

House points and stickers are given to individuals as reward for excellent behaviour, attitudes and work. Each week children will be selected to be the stars of the week and will be celebrated during assembly on a Friday.

We are looking forward to continuing our learning journey with the children through this first half of the summer term and of course start to think about their transition into Year 1.

Please do let us know if you or your child has any particular concerns or questions; a problem shared is a problem halved!

With very best wishes,

Mrs Warren



Cowrie Class - Reception

Class Booklet - Summer Term 1

Teacher: Mrs A Warren



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the first half of the summer term in Cowrie Class! This booklet will provide some information about what we will be learning about during this coming half term (although I am sure some things will change as we go along). Our main topic for this half-term is called 'How do your legs help you?' Our text from last half term 'What the Ladybird Heard' and our trip to Newquay Zoo moved our learning onto the wonderful world of bugs so we have decided that we wanted to learn more about them! We will link this to ourselves; how and why are we different to insects? What do they need all those legs for?!

Literacy and Communication & Language

Within Literacy we work on a range of skills including; Listening, Vocabulary, Questioning, Sentence and Sentence Building, Story-telling, Non-fiction texts and Phonics. Through texts such as Snail Trail, Spinderella, The Very Hungry Caterpillar and Yucky Worms we will explore new words, how to write sentences, how to retell stories and how to retrieve information from non-fiction texts. As well as this the children will benefit from:

- * Individual reading to an adult, at least twice weekly.
- * Daily phonics lessons
- * Group reading sessions 3 x per week
- * Daily opportunity to select a new sharing book from the class library
- * Regular library visits to choose a new library book.

Our written work for this half term will be based on the text 'Superworm' by Julia Donaldson. We will learn about rhyming words and we will predict key events in the story. We will learn the story off by heart through the use of story mapping and be able to write our own versions.

Mathematics

In maths we will be building and identifying numbers to 20 (and beyond) using a range of resources. We will continue counting past 10, use a range of concrete manipulatives which vary in size, colour and position to support the children when counting and we will encourage the children to notice numerals and quantities up to 20 in the classroom.

Our next topic is called 'How many now?' where we will use 'first, then, now' number stories to help the children to find the answer to the question 'How many now?' by providing meaningful contexts. We will use double-sided counters on tens frames which provide a visual aid so that the children can see how many have been added or taken away.

Our final theme for this half term is 'Manipulate, Compose and decompose'. This is all about selecting shapes for a purpose, further exploring the properties of shapes and spatial relations. The children will work with both 2d and 3d shapes within this unit.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development - Jigsaw

This term our theme is 'Relationships' and we will be talking about how to build constructive relationships, express our feelings and consider the feelings of others and think about the perspectives of others.

The children will learn about the role they play within their families; what jobs do they do to help out at home. We will also learn about how to make friends, solve problems that may occur with our friends and discuss ways that we can be a good friend.

We will also refer back to our topic from last half term, 'Healthy Me' and build on this by thinking about how amazing our bodies are; this will link to how different we are to insects ... what do they need all those legs for and why don't we have wings?!

Physical Development

Fine motor skills, control and coordination will be worked on within our 'Funky Fingers' sessions. Activities such as dough disco, threading, using tweezers and a range of small equipment will all help to develop muscles in the hands and fingers. This will feed into our handwriting sessions where we record our phonic sentence each day.

Our unit of work in PE for this half term is all about jumping! We will explore jumping, in different directions, at different speeds, different levels, heights and distances. We will learn how and why we jump, using our head, arms and feet, applying the basic jumping technique. We will then apply our skills within games.

Understanding the World

As part of our work on comprehending the world around us we will focus on:

- ◆ Family - The children will be encouraged to talk about their role within their families and the jobs they do to help at home.
- ◆ The Past - We will talk about how insects have evolved and how they have changed in order to survive.
- ◆ Geography - We will explore the natural world around us and habitats for the minibeasts we are learning about. How can our environment support biological diversity? What do insects do and why should we protect them? We will also use our previously learnt map skills to record where we find minibeasts when we go out hunting! We will also find out about why minibeasts are so important to our local area.
- ◆ Senses & Seasons - Whilst exploring outside we will continue to encourage the children to describe what they see, hear and feel. The children will begin to understand the effect of changing seasons on the natural world around them and this half term we will definitely be on the search for signs of summer!
- ◆ People - The children will talk about somewhere that is special to themselves, saying why and begin to recognise that some religious people have places which have a special meaning to them.
- ◆ Science - Investigating minibeasts and their habitats plus lifecycles. This half term we will watch and discuss how caterpillars turn into butterflies!

Expressive Arts & Design

As part of our work in this area of development we will focus on:

- ◆ Art and Creativity - This half term we will explore the question 'How can we build worlds?' This is all about encouraging imagination through art and we are looking forward to seeing what the children create!
- ◆ Music - Our classical music to listen to this term is 'Pomp and Circumstance' by Elgar where the children will have the opportunity to listen to the music and respond in a variety of ways (dance, art, conducting). Alongside this the children will also spend time using the song 'Happy' by Jin Jin (Bring the Noise) where they will move to the pulse independently and as part of a group, recognise and respond to the structure of the song and explore tonality, tempo and dynamics. We will also explore other examples of music that make us 'happy'.
- ◆ Dance and Performing Arts - We will be listening and responding to music and developing story lines in our play. The children are immersed in a language rich environment where during play they are encouraged to talk, express their feelings and respond to a range of stories and music.